

The Observer

opinion news features sports stuff

News Briefs

Confirmation Retreat

On February 22 there will be forty area high school students on campus for a Confirmation retreat.

Recital Series

A concert will be held on February 15 at 2:30 pm in the college Chapel. The recital, "A Program of Oboe, Sax, and Piano Music" will be performed by Chris and Diane Whitacre assisted by Dr. John Egan.

Puma Pride Week

*Thursday at 5:30
Basketball games
*Friday at 4:00
Games in Hlk. Ballroom
*Friday at 7:00
Pep Rally in fieldhouse
*Saturday at 1:00
Crowning of Court at basketball games

In This Issue

News Page 1,3

SA President Nichols
...see page 3

Opinion Page 2

Sexual Assault
...see page 2

Features Page 4,5

Top Ten Rensselaer
Dates
...see page 5

Sports Page 6,7

Senior Toby Cheatham
...see page 7

Stuff Page 8

Lots o' Poetry

PUMA PRIDE WEEK BEGINS WITH CAMPUS WIDE COMPETITIONS

by Ashley Pierce

It's time for the Saint Joseph's Pumas to show their school spirit! Puma Pride Week is scheduled for February 9th through the 14th and several activities have been planned. "Pride Week is a spirit week and a competition between the dorms to try to encourage puma pride," commented Sophomore Student Association Vice President Lori McKinney.

Events have been planned to keep "Puma Pride" strong all week. On Monday, there will be a volleyball tournament between the dorms in the rec center from 7-10 pm. Tuesday night, the championship game will be played at 6 pm in the rec center.

Thursday, during the men's and women's basketball games, dorms will be able to compete with one another while showing their spirit. Dorms are encouraged to come up with themes showing their school and dorm pride. "Judging will take place from the second half of the women's game to the end of the men's," stated McKinney.

Friday in the Ballroom, dorms will have the opportunity to show their skill at several games such as Jenga, Ping-Pong, trivial pursuit, euchre and more. Students should contact their dorm governors to sign up for these games. At 7 pm on Friday there will be a pep rally with more competitions for the

dorms in the ballroom.

The announcement of the winning dorm will take place on Saturday night. The winning dorm will receive a prize of \$100. "Also, Sno-coming court nominations will take place on Monday and Tuesday with elections being on Thursday and Friday," noted McKinney. Nominations and elections will be taken in front of the cafeteria during lunch and dinner. The court will be announced at the pep rally and the King and Queen will be crowned during Saturday's basketball game.

Anyone interested in being involved should contact their dorm governors.

Mock Trial Team

by William Shannon

Objections fly left and right and litigiousness is the order of the day as the Saint Joseph's Mock Trial team again prepares for competition. The Mock Trial team competed in their regional tournament on February 6 and 7 at Bellarmine College in Louisville, Kentucky.

Mock Trial is essentially defined by the name. Case materials are written and distributed to teams nationwide. The teams prepare cases for the prosecution and the defense, and then they square-off in a real courtroom setting. The teams advance to the Nationals in Des Moines, Iowa or to the "runner-up" Silver Flight Nationals in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Saint Joseph's College took two teams to the competition. The teams are captained by Senior Andrew Hicks, and is under the tutelage of Judge Robert Monfort. The teams have worked diligently since last semester to prepare for the competition.

In past years, the Mock Trial team has gone to the National Competition and to the Silver Flight. Also, several Saint Joseph's College students have won individual awards for performances as attorneys and witnesses.

Student Senate Update

On Monday, February 9, the Student Senate elected President, Zane Donaldson, for the 1998-99 term. Mr. Bill Manis, VP for Student Affairs, spoke regarding possible changes in the alcohol policies.

Careerfest '98 to Bring Many Employers

by Ashley Pierce

The Career Center has been working diligently to plan Careerfest '98 which will be held on Wednesday, February 25. Events scheduled include Career Panel Discussions, which will be held in the Core Building from 1-2 pm. The discussions will feature panels of Saint Joseph's College alumni representing each academic division who will discuss what their degrees have done for them and how to prepare for jobs in similar fields. "It is a wonderful opportunity for students to hear about the career paths of alumni from all academic divisions," noted Career Center Director Linda Bevec. One

"Approximately thirty-five employers from a variety of organizations will be hiring seniors for all majors."

featured panel is Fr. Tim McFarland's discussion on "The Value of Core in Today's Work World" which will be followed by a reception. These are open to all students.

Careerfest will also feature employer recruiting from 2-5pm in the Halleck Center Ballroom. Approximately thirty-five employers from a variety of organizations will be hiring seniors from all majors. Recruiters will also have

information on internships for sophomores and juniors. Lists of companies recruiting have been posted throughout the Core building. This event will provide seniors with the opportunity to practice networking and interviewing skills and provide several job options.

To participate in Careerfest, seniors had to register with the Career Center by February 6 by submitting a resume and filling out a registration form. The Career Center will also be holding a "Careerfest Orientation Session" to help seniors prepare for the recruiting process on February 16, 18 and 19 at 8 pm.

Does it happen on campus?

by DeAnn Hazzard

Rape, Sexual assault: Does it happen here? The reflex response could be no, and it could be yes. What does that say about our campus and about these serious issues? Well, to be perfectly honest, to admit utter cluelessness, we don't really know...there are the rumors of course, but that doesn't help much, at least not with our state of mind. Because who really believes rumors?...ten times out of ten they're either wrong, misguided or grossly exaggerated. So if we cannot believe the rumors, and we don't exactly have concrete facts on paper (considering I remember reading some statement of reported crimes that was posted in my bathroom which claimed rape cases at 0) then I guess rape and sexual assault are not occurrences on this campus. I hope you're picking up on my sarcasm.

So, now what? I am sure you're trying to figure out where I am going with such observations...perhaps, you're thinking I am going

to complain about security ...or suggest the possibility of cover-ups...or be ready to defend myself when I get challenged that there were no sexual assault or rape cases brought to court and that is why those statistics are correct...or mention ones that actually were brought to a judge(because to be honest, I don't know the legal technicalities or implications, but that is beside the point).

Well, to your surprise, I am not going to do any of the above. That is not my intent. My intent is to address the fact that Saint Joe has this tendency to create a false sense of security...that it is relatively inconceivable that something as heinous as rape could happen at good ol' Saint Joe. And in a way, that is considerably good that students feel safe, safe to the point that they don't even bother thinking about these horrible things. But thinking you're safe and believing you're safe to the point that you're overcome by false delusions is not good because in the true realm of reality sexual assault can, it probably has, and if it hasn't "officially

or technically" happened, it will in the future. So, as you probably have already discovered, I guess my full intent is to dispel the idea that our campus is protected by some safe bubble that does not allow violence into its happy existence...in other words, to stir up some awareness.

But wait...hold on before you think I have gone off the deep-end by frightening you with horrible possibilities of this type of violence, and you're inferring that I am suggesting locking our doors and never coming out, I will pose another controversial and scary question: If we don't know the actual truth about rape on this campus, how in the world will we know how the school would handle the situation if it did occur?

Unfortunately, I don't know...I don't even think the school really knows...because there really is no "policy." And that's why students have decided to take matter into their own hands...because these issues are just too important, too serious, and too

life-altering to be just left up in the air in terms of how all of the aspects of such a case would or should be handled.

The group has formed a committee that they refer to as "Advocates," and it is their intent to bring about awareness of the possibilities and reality of rape to students of Saint Joe, to formulate a policy that outlines what will be done in such cases, to identify the best way to offer support to victims, to educate students through an Awareness week, and to present their ideas during a future Senate meeting in hopes to receive student support and input.

"I see this issue as touching on the dignity of the human person and on the value of human sexuality. Both of these are key issues in Catholic Christian tradition, and this is the reason why I want Campus Ministry involved in the concerns of the Advocacy Group," said Fr. Jim Challancin.

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CHEERS & JEERS



*Cheers to warm weather in February

*Cheers to Valentine's Day

*Cheers to "I Hate Winter Week"

*Cheers to Sno-Coming

*Cheers to Black History Month

*Cheers to the fajita wraps in the cafeteria

*Cheers to sleeping in on the weekends

*Jeers to Monday tests

*Jeers to so much homework, so little time

*Jeers to the reality of writing 20 page papers

*Jeers to the audix lady calling at 8am to tell you that you have a message...what is that?

*Jeers to Hallmark holidays

*Jeers to flat tires

Letters to the Editor:
Letters must be between 350-500 words. They must be signed and include a telephone number. If the author of the letter does not want his/her name used, include a pseudonym to be printed. The Editorial Board can elect not to print a letter that conflicts with or violates the newspaper Editorial Policy or College Doctrine. Editors reserve the right to edit letters for length. Letters can be e-mailed to DeAnn Hazzard or dropped off in our mailbox in the Core Building.

Little 500 Committee Makes Rule Changes Nichols Begins Presidential Term

by Julia Garcia

Due to problems last Little 500, the alcohol policy of the race has been revamped and clarified. Last year, there was suspicion that several drivers and track members had consumed alcohol the evening before the race. But because the previous rule was so broad, it was open to individual interpretations and difficult to enforce.

Toni Szerencse, Little 500 Committee Chairperson, and Bruce Matthews were instrumental in creating four detailed rules and an enforcement policy so that the alcohol policy could be enforced. Both then talked to William Manis, Vice-President of Student Affairs, who reviewed the clarification and gave some suggestions.

"There shall be no consumption of alcoholic beverages or other illegal drugs by drivers, crew members, track marshals, race

officials, or participants in any other capacity, on the race weekend, which for this purpose is considered to be the time beginning the Friday morning prior to the Race day and extending

"There shall be no consumption of alcoholic beverages...on the race weekend..."

until the completion of the Race on Saturday, or in the case of a rain delay, Sunday" is one of the four rules that will be in effect for both students and alumni. In addition, if there is suspicion that the rules have been violated, Szerencse will be authorized to take immediate action.

"We're not hear to preach about the evils of alcohol...we just can't take the risk of hurting drivers or fans...it's far too big of a risk to take," stated Szerencse.

by William Shannon

The speeches are over. The bunting is down. The new student government now must get to the business of representing the students of Saint Joseph's College. At the top of this new government is Student Association President, Michael Nichols, who is new to the Presidency, but not to student government.

Nichols started his Saint Joseph's political career as a member of the Student Life Committee, and from there he saw the workings of the Student Association. He then made a successful bid for Treasurer, and then for the Presidency.

Now that he is President, what does he intend to do? "Our overall long-term goal is to foster better communication between all parties at Saint Joseph's College. We hope that, by this, greater unity is forged and general confidence restored."

The short-term goals of the administration are steeped in this spirit of communication and understanding. President Nichols has daily office hours, making himself directly ac-

cessible to the student body. He has met with Ernest Watson and other officials to compile general security procedures. He is hoping to have an open forum on the latest issue of the alcohol policy and a committee for campus clubs.

How have the first weeks of the semester been for the Student Association? "The first weeks have been productive, but a lot of it has been behind the scenes. There will be more visible results in the weeks and months to come," asserted Nichols. President Nichols also stated that he hopes more people take advantage of the office hours to voice any concerns that they may have.

Going into his administration, President Nichols has a very active and participant-oriented view of the purpose of student government.

"Student government's purpose is to put students on par with the faculty and staff. It gives a voice to the third factor in the equation at Saint Joseph's College."

David Hill Joins College's Computer Center Staff

by Becky Johnson

Saint Joseph's College has a new member added to their computer center, Mr. David Hill. Hill now occupies the position that was once filled by Bruce Matthews.

Hill hopes to bring to the college a new and improved computer system with a more user friendly network platform, including upgrading the computer lab in the Science building. "Some of the computer orientated areas that I have studied are windows NT, Macintosh, and novell," commented Hill. Hill obtained his undergraduate

degree from Southern University of Indiana. He also studied accounting and finance while acquiring his masters degree in computers. He is now working on obtaining his Ph.D.

Beyond his educational background, Hill has a full resume of professional experience. He was a Research Instructional Consultant at Western Illinois University and later became the Director of Information Technology at Texas College.

Hill is a Midwestern native who enjoys "chess, basketball, golf, tennis, bowling, softball and of course...religious beliefs."

Support Habitat for Humanity

Please give up your cafe number for Thursday, February 26 in order to help fund Habitat for Humanity's Spring Break Trip to help build a house in Mobile, Alabama. Volunteers will be around campus asking for your authorization.

Cup Of Joe? Coffee House Set to Open in March



photo by Jenny Palecek

Seniors Bob Dusek and Bill Bell observe the latest artwork added to the walls of Cup Of Joe's.

by Amy Chester

The Cup Of Joe? coffee shop is planning on opening its doors on March 1st. Due to difficulties the opening may be rescheduled at latest for March 10th. The hours of business are still being negotiated, but the coffee shop is anticipated to be open mostly

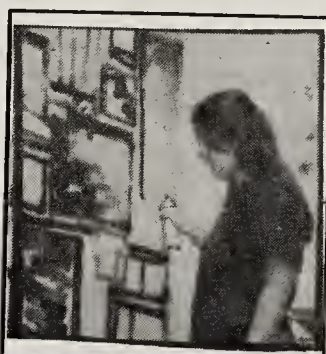
in the evenings. The creator of the idea that has developed into Cup Of Joe's is Bill Bell. Other sponsors are Bob Dusek, Fr. Jim Challancin, and Steve Santo.

By request, students can volunteer to work in the shop. The incentive will be free coffee and tips. Interviews will

begin in two weeks. The option for charging is still being worked on, and at this point the shop will run on cash only.

Students can expect to find several different kinds of coffees and teas, cookies, breads and maybe even bagels.

Donations still needed include plants, records, a record player, lamps, lightbulbs, couches, chairs, coffee cups, art, old books, Core books, poetry, and barstools. According to the developers, if donations are received a Cappuccino/Espresso machine will be the first priority.



photos by Jenny Palecek

Senior Danielle Adams and Junior Patty Hall help decorate the coffee house for the March opening.

A Middle School Valentine's Day Memory

by Tami Hart

Maybe I should have stayed in bed. I had all the clues it was going to be a bad day. First of all, it was the dreaded Valentine's Day. My alarm didn't go off, and my favorite pillow was missing.

But I pushed myself out of bed and got ready for middle school. We all remember middle school. In my school, there was a never ending quest as a sixth or seventh grader to fit in among the cool eighth graders who ruled the school. The eighth graders, with their tight rolled jeans and leather jackets made every seventh grader envious.

When I got to school, I was greeted with a familiar sound. I was late for class. Of course this would normally not present a problem, but my new teacher was very strict on attendance.

Quickly going to the of-

fice to get an excuse, I saw the red and pink decorations reminding me that it was Valentine's Day.

The secretary, Mrs. Rhodes, wrote me a pass, spelling my name wrong, of course. She and many others thought my name was Amie. I had to repeat my name loudly five times before she got it right.

This day, I knew that I would be with the girls not getting a rose. Each year on Valentine's Day, students could purchase a rose and have it delivered during the last class of the day to the person they admired.

Classes flew by. In Geometry, I got the inside tract that Mike was giving one of us a rose. Sara the Gossip Queen told me that Mike had bought one. Surely Sara couldn't be wrong, even if she had heard it from five other people. I was so excited that I couldn't help but jump

up and down.

Slowly seventh period came to a close. A messenger came in carrying beautiful roses. I didn't know at the time that they looked more like a stem with dried out petals.

The time had come. The present was here, perhaps for me. The messenger went to the girls who were picked and handed them their roses. I waited, but a rose never came to me. Finally, the messenger left, and I sat there contemplating the injustice of Valentine's Day. How could Gossiping Sara have been wrong?

When the bell rang, I left the room and headed for my locker. As I reached to open the door, I felt a presence behind me. The messenger handed me a rose, saying that it must have been for me since my name was Amie, right? Of course I agreed. I wanted a rose.



photo by Cindy Stanko

View from the Looney Bin

Miracles

by Heidi Jugovic

My mother's favorite holiday has always been Valentine's Day. Christmas is too much pressure. She's an immigrant, so Thanksgiving Day isn't too close to her heart. She hates Halloween with a passion.

Hearts and flowers and naked babies armed with bows and arrows are really her cup of tea. Maybe Valentine's Day is special for her since her husband's (my father's) name is Valentine. Whatever the reason, she's always found joy in a holiday most people consider to be a Hallmark invention.

I am going to make myself very unpopular with most of the girls on my floor by admitting that I've always had a soft spot in my heart for Valentine's Day. Nowadays it seems more popular to hate Valentine's Day than to look forward to it.

I think all the Valentine's Day bashing simply comes from our own frustrations. The pink and red decorations remind us that maybe we don't have that one thing we all search for even if we don't want to admit it.

I won't say the word. I'm willing to risk some dirty looks by sticking up for the holiday, but if I say the word, I risk a serious beating some dark night in the grotto.

The intensity with which some people loathe

Valentine's Day does not surprise me. It is simply the same intensity with which we long for what we are missing. It's easier to be angry than sad or hurt or disappointed or, worst of all, lonely.

Loneliness is, in my humble opinion, the worst feeling in the world. We all need others in our lives. Maybe that's why I let the voices keep on hanging out in my head. When things are really low, at least I have them for company.

We, of course, can and should, reach out to our friends and family. Their importance in our lives should not be underestimated.

But Valentine's Day isn't just about that kind of affection. It isn't even about boyfriends or girlfriends or crushes.

It's about the big one...the one that books and songs and movies and poems are written about. The one so few of us seem to find. The one that can change an ordinary life into an extraordinary life. The one that embodies everything that is special and good about being human. The one that is the biggest miracle of all.

I still won't say the word.

But that's why I like Valentine's Day. Not because of candy, cards, or pricey gifts. Not because of some Hallmark trickery. But because it holds out a tiny little hope that what we search for is out there.

Maybe this time when you whisper, "Will you be my Valentine?" the miracle will happen.

Wanted: Someone to mend one broken heart, stomped and smashed in two. Needs immediate attention. Call 8118 if you can be of assistance.

Lost: Several small arrows. If you find these arrows, use extreme caution. They may seem harmless, but they are actually quite powerful. Call ext. 8239 and ask for Cupid. Reward: true love.

On the Record: The Perfect Valentine's Day Gift



"I think a great Valentine's gift for me would be dinner with my wife in one of our favorite spots to relax, Mackinac Island between the Upper and Lower Peninsulas of Michigan."
--Peter Watkins
Professor

"The perfect Valentine's Day gift would be to spend it with the one you love. Nice, romantic dinner for two and then a night on the town. Possibly a little dancing or a movie. Then end it with going home, curling up together and going to bed... Just an idea..."
--Suzanna Roser
Sophomore

"The perfect gift would be to

get rid of the stupid holiday."
--Trisha Coffey
Sophomore

"Someone to share the candlelight, satin sheets, and tub of Cool Whip in my room with."
--Roger Burns
Sophomore

"I would really, really, really like a Harley Davidson Heritage Classic motorcycle, but would settle for a romantic card, a bag of peanut M & M's and a quiet night at home with MJ."
--Skip Shannon
President

"A guy that's single and NOT STUPID! Is it possible?...I didn't think so."

--Sara Reasoner
Sophomore

"For an adult woman: a clean house and a hot meal she did not have to cook."
--Carol Burns
Registrar

"A student once sent me a black rose. I gather the color didn't represent anything too loving on the student's part, but I never got an explanation."
--Charles Kerlin
Professor

"An extended stay at a warm-weather resort away from e-mail, fax machines, and telephones."
--Fred Berger
Professor

Valentine's Day He Said:

by Mark Polit

"How's it gonna be when you don't know me anymore?" These are disheartening words, and with Valentine's Day just around the corner, words you probably don't want to hear.

Those lyrics should be a reminder to you that you should never take love for granted. Sometimes that's an easy thing to do. When you have something for so long you start to lose your appreciation for it, you don't know what life would be like without it.

Men can go 364 days a year making mistakes and pissing off their loved ones, but we

have an opportunity to redeem ourselves, February 14.

But Valentine's Day is not just for people who are already in love; it is an opportunity to seize love. It can be hard to convince someone that you love them.

You take a risk, you might win, might lose, but you should never fear the answer and never stop trying (you wouldn't quit late in the 4th or bottom of the 9th). Enjoy Valentine's Day, enjoy love, and remember--you only live once.

She Said:

by Megan Bodnar

The time of year is upon us once again when we all become bombarded with lacy heart decorations and cherubic matchmakers aiming arrows. The candy manufacturers are working harder than ever, and flowers wait to be cut down in their prime. Yes, Valentine's Day draws near.

On this day, the ones who are loved are supposed to receive tokens of undying affection emanating from the burning depths of their beloved's soul. However, those who are not so fortunate usually sit at home watching some "chick flick" and crying into their tub of Ben & Jerry's. Many wonder on this day what malicious spirit would have possibly invented such a holiday.

Though I have often cursed Hallmark for this holiday, the origins of Valentine's Day actually exist within the Catholic religion. Around 500 AD Catholics sought to end the pagan fertility ritual celebrating the deity Lupercus, by replacing it with the worship of a saint.

Valentine became the main candidate because when the Roman emperor Claudius II forbade marriage, Valentine secretly married young couples. Unfortunately, he was caught. When he would not renounce his faith, he was clubbed, stoned, and beheaded.

Ironically, much of the gen-

eral population feels as if they have suffered the same fate as Valentine on and around his holiday. To many, Valentine's Day is synonymous with loneliness and rejection. To them, the holiday continues to chip away at their already fragile esteems.

Some have even gone so far as to boycott this holiday. Unfortunately, even the people who actually have someone on Valentine's Day are often disappointed. Either they are still forgotten, or they are placed under tremendous stress to find the perfect gift for their loved one.

Reality check--this gift will not make or break a relationship. Also, the act of giving a gift is not a license stating that one can be an insensitive jerk for the remainder of the year. Just a thought.

For those of you who don't have anyone right now, remember that love can take many forms. Friends can sometimes be more true a love than those who claim to be "in love."

Love is also not something that should only be shown once a year. If you are lucky enough to love anyone or anything, show it! Proclaim it to the world every day, not just when you are obligated by a stupid holiday.

Top Ten Rensselaer Dates (or what to do on Valentine's Day if you're carless)



10. "Fall" in love at Baz's Roller Rink.
9. Go ice fishing together at Lake Banet.
8. Candlelight dinner at the Cafe (Bring your own candles).
7. Strike out at the bowling alley.
6. Go shopping for matching outfits at Fashion Bug.
5. "Meet at Arni's" for a heart-shaped pizza.
4. Hop on the Greyhound at Trail Tree and see the country together.
3. Share a hot dog at the Wal-Mart Cafe (Ask the greeter to join you).
2. Bunji jump off the water tower holding hands!
1. Double date it with Skip and MJ.

Black History Month Activities Planned

by Heather Hagan

In addition to Valentine's Day and President's Day, the month of February is also host to yet another notable event — Black History Month.

This year, Minority Student Union (MSU) will be sponsoring a number of events to celebrate the achievements of African Americans and to discuss current race issues.

"The goal of this year's Black History Month is to get everyone to be aware and to participate in the events that MSU is sponsoring."

--Marty Corley

Events already held include the showing of the movie "Skin Deep," a special guest speaker, entertainment by the Sisters of Thunder musical group, and a trip to Butler University to hear Indianapolis poet Mari Evans speak.

Coming up in the next few weeks will be another speaker, Paul Bayless, who will discuss affirmative action, and entertainment by the Primeridian rap group. During the last week of February, the film "Eyes on the Prize" will be shown on the Puma Channel.

MSU is encouraging all students to participate in these activities. They have advertised with posters hung throughout campus and have requested that professors encourage their students to attend the events.

Marty Corley, a member of MSU, feels that it is important for students to participate in the events regardless of their race.

"The goal of this year's Black History Month is to get everyone to be aware and to participate in the events that MSU is sponsoring," Corley said. "We must be aware that this is not just Black History, it is also American History."

Ask Arnie

Dear Arnie,

I'm a senior, and I'm finding it very difficult to get motivated to study. I guess you could say that I have senioritis. I just don't want to do my work. Even when I sit down to study or read for class, I can't concentrate.

I always end up thinking about something else or wishing that I was already finished. I'm really starting to get behind, and I know I have to get going, but I just can't get excited about school anymore. Any suggestions?

--Lazybones

Dear Lazybones,

As you mentioned, your condition is actually quite common among seniors (and even many underclassmen). Here are some suggestions for getting motivated: Find a point to what you are learning.

It's always easier to spend your time and energy working on something if you realize its importance in your life and in the world. This shouldn't be hard to do in classes like Core 10, which apply much of what you've already learned to the real world.

Seek out a quiet place of your own where you can study. Obviously, you're not going to get much work done sitting in your dorm room surrounded by the TV, stereo, and all of your friends. There are lots of great places to study at Saint Joe: the chapel basement, the basement of the library, the couches in Halleck, Core XI (just kidding).

Find a balance between studying and social activities. When you accomplish a task (finish a paper, read a chapter, etc.), take a break and spend some time with friends, or just relax with a favorite book. Reward yourself for your accomplishments, and don't let yourself feel overwhelmed.

--Arnie

Send letters to Ask Arnie at Post Office Box 2225 or put them in The Observer box in the Core building.

The Lady Pumas push for a place in the Conference

by Jill Masters

The Saint Joseph's Lady Pumas have fought their way back after a disappointing first half of the season. They pulled off big victories against IPFW and Wisconsin Parkside during the last weekend in January to move into sixth place in the Great Lakes Valley Conference. However, this past weekend the team suffered losses to non-conference rival IUPUI, and also were defeated by two conference opponents, University of Indianapolis and Northern Kentucky University. This drops the Lady Pumas to seventh place in the conference.

Only the top seven teams go on to the post-season conference tournament. The Pumas have a tough weekend ahead as they face a couple of the top ranked teams in the

conference. The Lady Pumas will play the University of Southern Indiana on Thursday night, and Southern Illinois Edwardsville on Saturday. Both games will be held at the Richard F. Scharf Alumni Fieldhouse.

With the team struggling, Coach Plett looks to his seniors to lead the way.

Senior Tami Williams has been a force for opposing teams to contend with. She is shooting an amazing 60 percent from the field and averaging 7.3 rebounds a game. Senior, Sarah Krey has also stepped up her game and has secured a starting role on the team. Senior Jessika Henry continues to lead the team as she has all year. The team has come together under very precarious situations. The Lady Pumas

worked hard to get to the point that they were at last Saturday. It is the last chance for the seniors to get the conference ring, so the team wants to get to the tournament with no more wrinkles and hang-ups.

Freshman Lauralee Mullikin invites the pressure and is just glad that she can help out.

"There seems to be a lot of pressure, on us to help take the team to the tourney. I understand the pressure and it makes me feel important that the team is looking at all of the players to help out; not just the seniors," Lauralee said.

If the Pumas are going to salvage the remainder of what could only be considered a disappointing season, it will have to be a total team effort.

IM Basketball:

The Fight for the Top Seed

by Kevin Collins

It's that time of year again when the Rec Center gets rockin' and hoops fever runs through everyone's veins. That's right, it's IM basketball season.

Coach, Mark Settle is the director of IM's, but Chad Novak is responsible for scheduling all of the games and also finding the refs and scorekeepers for the games.

The basketball brackets include both men's A and B divisions and a women's division. There are four teams in

the men's A division; Penetration, No Limit, Young Gunz, and the Coaches Connection. There are eight teams in the B division; Bingies, Park Staff, Bagels, Dirty Little Bastards, CFA's, No Ups, Soup Nazi's and W.E.T.S.U. The women's division has five teams: The West Side, Team Roop, Word, GLOB and Simply the Best.

At this point in the season each team has played all the other teams in its division at least once and have started playing interleague games.

In the men's brackets the leaders of the pack have been established. Penetration is at the top of the ladder for the A league, while the B league remains tight with Bagels and Park Staff fighting for first place. Park Staff did win the first meeting between the two teams.

Mark Settle feels that this season is going very well.

"I think that this year's basketball is going great. We want everyone to have a good time and try to work around people's schedules so that they can participate."

GAMES and MEETS

THURSDAY FEB. 12
MEN'S AND
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL vs. Southern Indiana
(Dorm Wars)

FRIDAY FEB. 13
TRACK at BALL STATE 4p.m

SATURDAY FEB. 14
MEN'S AND
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL vs. Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

SUNDAY FEB. 15
NAKED WATER POLO match at Lake Banet at 1:00 versus rivals from the University of Hawaii

In the Alley

by Marcy Janjecic

Get your bowling shoes on because IM Bowling is back! IM bowling is currently in its third week and is run by Seniors Joe Vorrier and Kathy Braun. The league meets every Tuesday night for five weeks at the Strike Zone from 9:30 until midnight. For a mere \$5.00, the team is able to play three games and have shoe rental.

Six teams comprise the intramural squad with four to five people on every team.

Denise Rybicki is having a lot of fun with her teammates Shannon Anderson, Joanne Barrow, Joe Vorrier, and Tony Williams.

"I am not very good at bowling, but the team that I am on is a lot of fun! The guys take it seriously, but that just gives me the opportunity to laugh at them," Denise expressed.

IM HOCKEY: Off to a Swinging Start

by Kevin Collins

Intramural sports offers both the athletes and the nonathletes of Saint Joseph's College an opportunity to show off their skills in a number of different events. One of the most physical IM sports available is IM Hockey. The individuals who play this sport beat on each other, knock each other all over the court, and basically do what it takes to pull out a victory.

There are nine different teams participating in IM Hockey, six men's teams and three women's. The women's teams are Guns N' Rosa, Zack Attack, and the Women's Team. The men's teams are the MOB, Gators, Hebrews, Mudhens, the Seifert Walkons and the Swingers. The games are played on court two in the Hanson Recreation Center on Sunday and Thursday nights. Competition between both

the men and the women is fierce. Tony Rogowski thinks that there is a wide display of talent.

"The teams are much more balanced this year, and that should lead to some very good games" Rogowski said.

To this point, the consensus seems to say that the Men of Bennett is the team to beat. MOB has the luxury of having the league's two leading goal scorers, who are William "Flounder" O'Donovan and Scott Lonegran. Lonegran also acts as the director of IM Hockey.

After only one week of play, it is hard to say which teams are going to win the final titles, but the favorites would have to be MOB for the men and Guns N' Rosa for the women. These two teams are coming off of impressive first round victories. MOB beat the Swingers 11-3 and Guns N' Rosa defeated Zack Attack 8-2.

Toby Cheatham On Track to a Bright Future

by Erin Breetzke

If a person stops to take a look at the make up of the Saint Joseph's College track and field team, such a person must be sure to look at Senior Toby Cheatham.

Toby is from Borden, a small town in southern Indiana. Toby has only one older brother and was raised in a very close knit family. Upon graduation in a class of a mere 27 students, he chose Saint Joseph's for two main reasons.

"I chose Saint Joe because of a track scholarship, and I liked the small school atmosphere. It was what I was used to," he said.

Though entering school with an undecided major, Toby knew he had a desire to teach.

"I took some math courses to keep up on the subject, [and] Mrs. McIlwain was the big persuasion in becoming a



picture provided by T. Cheatham
Toby Cheatham is not only a great athlete, but a team leader as well.

math teacher," Cheatham stated.

"She has really taken care

of me and has been a big factor in my career choice here at Saint Joseph's. I hope that maybe I can influence someone's life as she did mine," he concluded.

As a track member, Toby finds the sport, and athletics in general, beneficial to his current status as a student, as well as to his future.

"[Being an athlete] has helped me

develop skills that will get me through hard times, and help me learn how to enjoy the good times," he commented.

"Sports allows us to have many opportunities to succeed, and if we try hard enough and we do succeed, then we start to develop self-

confidence...I like to remind myself of the saying 'if better is possible, good is just not enough,'" he added.

Due to his involvement in athletics, Toby has had many opportunities to grow as a person and as an athlete.

"Being a team captain has helped me to develop into a more communicative person. I think it helps one become more responsible and hopefully develop skills for other opportunities in life," he commented.

With Toby's success and in the opportunities he has had, there have been a few people who have supported him in his life. Though he passed on two years ago, Toby's grandfather was, and still is, a very important person in his life.

"I was very close to my grandfather, who I would have to say played the most important role in my life," Toby said. "He was very supportive of

anything I did, and gave me the courage and motivation to be successful at anything I did. I guess you could say we had a very special relationship," he concluded.

With a healthy background and a good head on his shoulders, Toby is ready to face the future after graduation.

"After graduation I have many opportunities. I would like to move back home and find a teaching job, or stay around Rensselaer and train some more for track. Maybe get a teaching job in the northern part of the state or even somewhere else," Toby explained.

Though Toby concentrates on his own endeavors, he never forgets those people who have helped him in his journey.

"Coach [Massoels] has been a big help to me here at Saint Joe. I'll miss the little guy when I'm gone!"

Pumas Hope to Redeem Themselves

by Eric Schneider

The Saint Joseph's Men's basketball team has fallen on hard times and picking themselves up won't be an easy task.

Two weeks ago, the Pumas were defeated by IPFW 67-38, with Greg Taylor leading the Pumas with eight points. They redeemed themselves with a 82-74 victory against Wisconsin-Parkside. In that game, Tyrone Parks scored 21 points in the victory, which continued the Pumas winning streak at home.

This past week, the Pumas traveled south to battle it out against Northern Kentucky. The bus drive home was a long one, with Pumas hanging their heads after being beat 91-65. Again Tyrone Parks was the leading scorer and Andrew Moore and A.J.

VanBelkum each chipped in 11. The crushing defeat has left the Pumas in a state of despair.

"The Kentucky game really opened our eyes," stated VanBelkum. "We have a lot of work to do if we want to achieve our goals."

The Pumas will have a chance to redeem themselves this upcoming weekend, when they battle both Southern Indiana and Southern Illinois University-

Edwardsville. Both games are at home.

Coach Bland is confident that his team can win at home.

"We have been playing great ball at home. We need to concentrate on fundamentals, taking good shots and rebounding to continue our streak at home," Bland stated.

The upcoming weekend will either make or break the rest of the season.

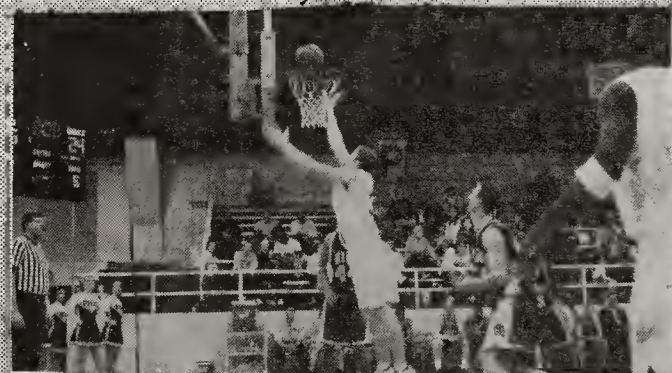


photo by Jen Palecek

Pumas are on the road to redemption

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On Track: Several Athletes Place at Meet

The men's and women's track team participated in the Eastbay Pointer Track Invitational on Saturday, February 7. The women's team finished third overall and the men's team finished sixth overall. Some of the top five Puma finishers were:

- Weight Throw
 - Bryan Hall 2nd Place
 - Toby Cheatham 5th place
- High Jump
 - Kelly Fink 1st place
- Triple Jump
 - Vicki Jaroszewski 3rd place
 - Jill Hrobsky 4th place
- 400 Meter Run
 - Chrissy Scafide 1st place
 - Mika Stoker 2nd place

- 55 Meter Dash
 - Shannon Kline 2nd place
- 55 Hurdles
 - Chris Crum 5th place
- 200 Meter
 - Erin Clark 5th place
- Shot Put
 - Joe Koczan 4th place
 - Becky Garza 2nd place
- Long Jump
 - Vicki Jaroszewski 3rd place



About a sexy someone

.....

(Just thinking of her beauty)

What's behind the dark eyes of intensity?

"Why do you walk so fast, young woman,
why is your hair so long and chaotic?"Smiling when something's amiss, hands
in the pockets of your coat,
coughing, and moving... just moving,
It's no one's move, no one's show...
purposeful and directed,

driving me crazy from afar

"the young man cries out in an effortless
exhaustion,"
fearing your eyes, but wanting you all the
same,
tired of doing nothing.If only you knew I was watching
I could tell

I would know if it was real

"Are you moving to the slow, endless time
of the night...
for the days that we all dream to forget
about, stumbling, marching toward the
ends of our lives?"Do the urges move you?
Do you make your own history?
Are you doing it alone?
Can you?"

(Just thinking of her confirming beauty..)

Bob Dusek

PRISONER

Breathless, alone, wide-eyed
with fear that my situation
is not temporary, that I will always
fail to benefit from horoscopes
promising love and sex,
that the wish I make will never reach
a star, I quiver with longing,
stare at the bars of the top bunk,
already a prisoner as I lie in bed,
painfully awake in the darkness.

Rachel Barlage

Moments

Click.
It's like a slide show.
Click.
The images click past in slow motion.
Arriving.
And so I showed up
Watching.
and stood back
Joining.
until you held out your hand
Smiling.
and invited me in
Experiencing.
and everyone was
Laughing.
having fun
Living.
and the days fell past
Leaving.
until our time was up.
Click.
Click.

Sarah Martin

PORTISHEAD

A Review of Portishead's New Album

It's a very rare occasion when something new comes
along in the world of music. Portishead is definitely
something refreshingly new. Following their 1994
debut album "Dummy," Portishead released their
sophomore, self-titled album... "Portishead."Named after a small town outside Bristol,
England, where mastermind Geoff Barrow grew up,
Portishead dwells around the haunting vocals of lead
singer Beth Gibbons. Interestingly enough, Gibbons
started up with Portishead after a stint as a Janis
Joplin-cover singer. Geoff Barrow decided to start up
the band after assisting Massive Attack, a British
group, on their album "Blue Lines." Portishead
ended up drawing much of its influence from Mas-
sive Attack, with subtle style differences.Portishead's new album involves some
strange, but nonetheless neat, methods for its produc-
tion. A 30 piece orchestra was employed for several
of the tracks, a gentle record "hiss" in the back-
ground, and striking breakbeats. All of these tech-
niques add to a certain melancholy feeling of the
whole album. Beth Gibbons sings about troubled
love, personal inflections, and emotional frustration.
and the members of Portishead insisted on working
with live sounds instead of using pre-fab ones (the
use of samplers is not present on the new album,
although record scratching is occasionally used to
add depth to a song).To truly appreciate "Portishead," you must
give it time. At first it may not sink in, but after
several plays you will notice small changes in the
tempo or in Beth Gibbons' raspy voice. Not many
albums can change styles as quickly as this one, and
each song tries something new that will draw you in.

Charles Martin

...★ Remember ★...

I sit in my room with paranoia all alone,
listening to the wind whistle outside the window
By myself at night, thoughts get deep
They make me twist in my covers and fight sleep
I don't know who I am, or what I see
It seems different in the mirror everytime,
is it me?I wonder if she remembers the way we used to be,
or if it took her more than a week to get over me.Sometimes another day feels like another battle
But still I climb further up the ladder,
hoping I don't fall to make the glass shatter
But I ain't trippin' about these shades of grey
Because I know that soon I'll wake to better days

Randy Wagers

SIMPLE CLARITY

Do you remember the days when Legos would make you smile
Smiles were easy to come by even if you had to wait awhileEven when prom was ruined by a degrading, horrid pimple
Life was free from complexity, by nature: Simple

A young child's eyes knows of mudpies and speaks of house

Life was free of integrity, intensity knew no boundary

Adulthood turns the child brain into a steel molding foundry

Imagination so encouraged, turns into insanity, societies clutch

I allow john seagull to fly in my mind, it's crazy: too much

I allow the big bad wolf to destroy my sacred goldie locks

Inside the only rationale, DNA: life's building blocks

Freedom only propaganda in the mind, communist, a revolution at hand

As I stare at the tree distorted by the glass, I know its only sand

no answer to the madness, nothing solved, no donation, no charity

Only a simple decree for the sacred long stare of simple clarity

Bill Bell